

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 H-01 SIG-01 DHA-02 IO-13 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 IGA-02 TRSE-00 /090 R

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R 041247Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, US, VN, LA, CB

SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY TO TESTIFY ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER WILL TESTIFY ON HUMAN RIGHTS BEFORE THE HUMPHREY SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE MARCH 7. AFTER PRESENTING A GENERAL STATEMENT ON US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY AND FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, HE WILL ANSWER SPECIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS. HIS GUIDANCE REFLECTS THE ADMINISTRATION'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY AS WELL AS OVERALL US INTERESTS. IF ASKED ABOUT VIETNAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA, HE WILL REPLY ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

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BEGIN TEXT.

WE HAVE REPORTS ON THE SYSTEMATIC VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN VIETNAM AND LAOS, TWO COUNTRIES WHOSE REGIMES HAVE A CONCEPTION OF POLITICAL AND HUMAN VALUES FAR DIFFERENT THAN THAT OF OUR OWN. HOLDING POLITICAL PRISONERS IN

"REEDUCATION CAMPS", IS ONE EXAMPLE OF THIS DIFFERENCE. THE ADMINISTRATION'S STRONG ADVOCACY OF THE PROTECTION OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS WORLDWIDE HAS BEEN FORCEFULLY STATED ON MANY OCCASIONS. IT APPLIES TO THESE COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS TO OTHERS IN THE REGION WITH WHICH WE HAVE CLOSE RELATIONS.

INFORMATION WHICH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS RECEIVED ABOUT GROSS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CAMBODIA IS CONSISTENT WITH THAT CONTAINED IN PRESS REPORTS. EVIDENCE FROM REFUGEES SUGGESTS A SUBSTANTIAL LOSS OF LIFE SINCE THE COMMUNIST VICTORY IN CAMBODIA, AS WELL AS AN ABSENCE OF FREEDOM AND RESPECT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIA, WE BELIEVE OUR CONCERN HAS BEEN PUBLICLY STATED OFTEN ENOUGH TO DRAW THEIR ATTENTION. WE ARE ON RECORD AS STATING OUR WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT AN INQUIRY INTO THE CAMBODIAN SITUATION BY A GROUP OF COUNTRIES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OR RESPONSIBLE PRIVATE HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE U.S. OPPOSITION TO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THESE COUNTRIES CLEAR AND NOT CONCENTRATE ONLY ON THOSE COUNTRIES WITH WHICH WE HAVE CLOSE RELATIONS.

END TEXT.

WE WILL CABLE PERTINENT PARTS OF HIS REMARKS AFTER HE TESTIFIES.

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2. ABOVE IS FYI ONLY. YOU SHOULD REFER PRESS QUESTIONS ON THIS ISSUE TO THE DEPARTMENT.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, US, VN, LA, CB, (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN)
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